

REMARKS

I. INTRODUCTION

Claims 11-20 are under consideration in the present application.

II. RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

In the Office Action, the Examiner alleges that the subject matters recited in the claims of the present application are distinct from each other, and requires restriction to one of the following groups of inventions under 35 U.S.C. §121:

Group I, claim(s) 11-18, allegedly drawing to a press-form device;
and

Group II, claim(s) 19 and 20, allegedly drawn to software.

Applicants hereby respectfully traverse the above alleged separate invention restriction requirement, as set forth in the Restriction Requirement. Indeed, Applicants respectfully assert that each of the alleged separate inventions of claims 11-18 and claims 19-20 identified by the Examiner above and as set forth in the Restriction Requirement should in no way require separate searches and consideration of different fields of research, and certainly would not place any undue burden on the Examiner.

Thus, Applicants respectfully traverse this restriction requirement set forth in the Office Action, and request that it be withdrawn.

Irrespective of the apparently improper restriction requirement, Applicants provisionally elect Group I, i.e., claims 11-18, for prosecution in this application, with traverse.

If the restriction requirement is maintained, Applicants reserve the right to pursue the non-elected claims in this application in one or more divisional applications claiming priority from the present application.

In view of the above, the Restriction Requirement contained in the Office Action should be withdrawn.

III. CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Prompt reconsideration and allowance of the present application are therefore earnestly solicited. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned to expedite the prosecution of this application if any issues remain outstanding.

Respectfully submitted,

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